



DENTIST MIND

# MMI Mock

—  
Mock 1



# MMI STATION: MOTIVATION FOR DENTISTRY



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

## Why Dentistry?

This station will explore your motivation for studying dentistry.

- 1. Why dentistry and not another healthcare profession?**
- 2. If offered a job with money would you take it over being a dental student?**
- 3. What do you look forward to in dentistry?**



## MMI STATION

MOTIVATION FOR  
DENTISTRY1 

This station will explore your motivation for studying dentistry.

**1. Why dentistry and not another healthcare profession?**

2. If offered a job with money would you take it over being a dental student?
3. What do you look forward to in dentistry?

## GOOD ANSWER

- **Interest in science.** Passion for learning about teeth
- **Desire to help people.** Reference charity work and your altruistic nature.
- **Social aspect.** Interest in patient contact and human engagement
- **Work experience.** Insights during work experience placements.
- **Personal experience** - e.g. having braces as a child

## BAD ANSWER

- **Too unrealistic.** e.g. 'at age 7, I broke my tooth, and it inspired me to become a dentist'. You can say that this sparked your interest, but you have to mention how this interest grew into a passion.
- **Too generic.** Not giving specifics. For example, saying 'desire to help people' is fine, but you have to go further and link it to your volunteering / charity work, or explain why you actually like helping people.



## MMI STATION

MOTIVATION FOR  
DENTISTRY

## 1



This station will explore your motivation for studying dentistry.

1. Why dentistry and not another healthcare profession?
- 2. If offered a job with money would you take it over being a dental student?**
3. What do you look forward to in dentistry?

## GOOD ANSWER

- **No, as dentistry is unique.** Show your passion for dentistry, and highlight that dentistry is a unique career.
- **No, as job satisfaction is key.** Stress that money doesn't equate to happiness, and that you want a job which you are passionate about.
- **Show an awareness of wages.** Show that you are aware that dentists don't get paid bankers wages, and that you've decided to do dentistry with this in mind.

## BAD ANSWER

- **Ignoring the pay.** Whilst dentists don't get paid as much as bankers they do get paid well so it's important that you are aware of this but don't make it part of your reasoning for going for the career.
- **Don't give a balanced answer.** We always say to give pros and cons for both sides but this is probably a good exception
- **Not showing your passion for dentistry.** This is a chance to really showcase why you want to study dentistry



## MMI STATION

MOTIVATION FOR  
DENTISTRY

This station will explore your motivation for studying dentistry.

1. Why dentistry and not another healthcare profession?
2. If offered a job with money would you take it over being a dental student?
- 3. What do you look forward to in dentistry?**

## GOOD ANSWER

- **Hospital dentistry.** Interacting with patients, working on wards, dealing with the challenge of diagnosing patients.
- **Research.** Getting involved in research projects both at university (e.g. iBSc) and in your career.
- **Teaching.** Getting involved in teaching dental students and passing on your knowledge.
- **Management.** Being in CCGs and in health management roles.
- **Science.** Learning continuously about science.

## BAD ANSWER

- **The pay.** Don't focus on the pay of a dentist. Money shouldn't be your main motivating factor for dentistry.
- **Not being able to name enough things.** Make sure to have this question prepared, as some students struggle to name anything!
- **Not linking to work experience.** It is best to link your ideas to what you say at your work experience.





# MMI STATION: WORK EXPERIENCE



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

## Discussing your Work Experience

On this station you will be discussing specific aspects of work experience.

1. Could you give an example of something you learned on your work experience?
2. Could you talk about a patient case that caught your eye?
3. What was your motivation behind doing work experience?



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION WORK EXPERIENCE

# 2

On this station you will be discussing specific aspects of work experience.

- 1. Could you give an example of something you learned on your work experience?**
2. Could you talk about a patient case that caught your eye?
3. What was your motivation behind doing work experience?

### GOOD ANSWER

- Using the STARR Layout (Situation, Task, Action, Result, Reflection)
- Use plenty of examples
- Try and focus on one or two examples rather than listing off many.
- Show that you have this work experience has increased your motivation for a medical career.

### BAD ANSWER

- Trying to mention every single work experience placement you did.
- Saying what you saw, rather than what you learned from it.
- Speaking too much in one go, giving the examiner little opportunity to ask questions.

Interview  
Top Tip



Remember that each MMI station is like a new interview. You can actually recycle examples as Station 1 won't know what you said in Station 5 for example - So try and aim to learn a set of examples that you can use for more than one station.



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION WORK EXPERIENCE

# 2

On this station you will be discussing specific aspects of work experience.

1. Could you give an example of something you learned on your work experience?
- 2. Could you talk about a patient case that caught your eye?**
3. What was your motivation behind doing work experience?

### GOOD ANSWER

- **Structured approach.** STARR method is useful. Speak in a logical and structured method - avoid being too long-winded, but give enough detail to set the scene.
- **Discuss personal research.** e.g. 'I saw a patient with gum disease, and it inspired me to do my own personal research. To raise awareness, I gave a talk at my school during a lunch time'. It takes 60 minutes to do some research and prepare a short talk, and the talk could be to 5 friends - do it!

### BAD ANSWER

- **Not picking a specific patient.** Students have a tendency to talk too generically about patients in general, without picking a specific patient.
- **Not knowing much about the condition.** This question is focusing on the condition that the patient has as well as the patient as a person. It won't look good if you haven't done your research about the patient's condition and treatment.
- **Lying.** If you try to lie about a patient, it could get found out. You may say something which isn't correct for a certain condition and this will look odd.



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION WORK EXPERIENCE

# 2

On this station you will be discussing specific aspects of work experience.

1. Could you give an example of something you learned on your work experience?
2. Could you talk about a patient case that caught your eye?
3. **What was your motivation behind doing work experience?**

### GOOD ANSWER

- **To learn more about dentistry.** You wanted to see dentistry first-hand to help you decide if this was the career for you.
- **Out of interest.** You have always been passionate about hospitals, so you were keen to see things first hand.
- **To see the different sectors of dentistry.** You wanted to see the differences between dentistry in a private practice, hospital and more. This will show a broad understanding of the career.

### BAD ANSWER

- **Because you had to.** Don't say you did work experience because it was compulsory. You want to come across as keen and interested in dentistry.
- **To improve your UCAS application.** e.g. 'I tried really hard to do work experience abroad to improve my UCAS application. This is due to my motivation to get in and study dentistry'.
- **To choose between dentistry and medicine.** You can incorporate how this helped you decide but don't let it be the basis of your answer.





# MMI STATION: DENTAL ETHICS



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

DENTAL ETHICS



## A Career in Dentistry

You have a friend who would like to also apply for dentistry but has a physical disability. He is nervous and feels that he has no role in healthcare.

**What would you say to your friend? Can they become a dentist?**

DIFFICULTY: HARD



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION DENTAL ETHICS 3

You have a friend who would like to also apply for dentistry but has a physical disability. He is nervous and feels that he has no role in healthcare.

**What would you say to your friend? Can they become a dentist?**

### GOOD ANSWER

- **It depends.** The most important thing to say is that it depends on what the disability is.
- **It shouldn't affect their ability to practice.** As long as the disability does not reduce a person's ability to give their knowledge to others, care for patients and also does not affect their ability to learn dental procedures, the disability should not be an obstacle in their career.
- **They may have specific needs.** These need to be addressed to cater for this such as increasing the amount of wheelchair access at dental schools.

### BAD ANSWER

- **Being definitive.** In reality, it depends on what the university's criteria are. Technically not being able to study a certain degree could be seen as discrimination.
- **Not showing empathy.** This stations is also testing your ability to understand the point of view of your friend and understanding how it would feel if you were in the same position.
- **Not giving a balanced answer.** This is the most important aspect of all of these ethical scenarios.





# MMI STATION: DENTAL ETHICS



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

DENTAL ETHICS



## Complaints Procedure

You notice one of your colleagues, Michael, doing work experience at the Dental Surgery.

You see Michael looking at his neighbour's confidential records out of curiosity. The practice manager calls you in and questions you. Apparently Michael had been speaking to his neighbour's son in the pub, and telling him about his mother's treatment. The mother has complained. Your manager has called you in for advice to discuss the next steps.

**What points will you bring up?**

DIFFICULTY: HARD



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION DENTAL ETHICS 4

You notice one of your colleagues, Michael, doing work experience at the Dental Surgery. You see Michael looking at his neighbour's confidential records out of curiosity. The practice manager calls you in and questions you. Apparently Michael had been speaking to his neighbour's son in the pub, and telling him about his mother's treatment. The mother has complained. Your manager has called you in for advice to discuss the next steps. **What points will you bring up?**

### GOOD ANSWER

- **Explain the ethical issues.** This can lead to patients losing faith in the dental practice. In future, patients may not come to see their dentist, or if they do come, they may withhold personal information vital to a diagnosis.
- **Unfair on patient.** Show that you understand it is unfair on the patient as they may not want their son to know about their specific medical / dental treatment.
- **Define professionalism.** Professionalism is how you respond to the GDC standards that are expected of you, and how you take responsibility for meeting them. Appropriate attitudes and behaviours with patients and colleagues need to be considered too!

### BAD ANSWER

- **Being overly harsh.** Michael deserves punishment - yes - but you should not be overly harsh. For example, he doesn't deserve a Fitness to Practice and banned from future practice. He has made a mistake and needs to learn from it.
- **Neglecting the situation.** If you in any way justify Michael's actions, your answer will be going in the wrong direction. You need to show an awareness for the ethical issues at hand.
- **Not being able to define professionalism.** It is a hard word to describe but you should understand its fundamentals.



# MMI STATION 5



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

## Personal Skill and Weaknesses

**Discuss the following with your interviewer:**

1. Your biggest weakness
2. A time you had a challenging task
3. How you deal with stress



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION PERSONALITY 5

Discuss the following with your interviewer:

1. **Your biggest weakness**
2. A time you had a challenging task
3. How you deal with stress

### GOOD ANSWER

- Taking on too much / time management
- Organisation
- Public speaking
- Being too ambitious in decision making

### BAD ANSWER

- Perfectionist (generic!)
- Giving a positive

Interview  
Top Tip



You can link in your extracurricular activities here. For example, if your weakness is being too ambitious, you could link that into trying to organise too many events when head of dental society at school. You also can talk about how you are working to improve the weakness, but don't spend most the time talking about a positive!



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION PERSONALITY 5

Discuss the following with your interviewer:

1. Your biggest weakness
2. **A time you had a challenging task**
3. How you deal with stress

### GOOD ANSWER

- **STARR method.** Use a good structure - situation, task, action, response, reflection.
- **Quality of task.** Ideally the task will be impressive - e.g. organising a charity event is better than planning a cinema trip for your friends.

### BAD ANSWER

- **Simplistic answer.** The task should not be overly simplistic - e.g. organising a cinema trip for your group of friends.
- **Lack of reflection.** Don't just describe the task, actually reflect on it!



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION PERSONALITY 5

Discuss the following with your interviewer:

1. Your biggest weakness
2. A time you had a challenging task
3. **How you deal with stress**

### GOOD ANSWER

- **Extracurricular** - playing sport, listening to music, playing an instrument
- **Speak to people** - e.g. if stress in a team situation, then speak to the leader
- **Keep a diary** - make lists of tasks to keep on top of things

### BAD ANSWER

- **Simplistic methods** - e.g. watching TV, trying not to think about stress
- **'I don't get stressed'** - this defeats the question. Everyone gets stressed at least once in life.



# MMI STATION: NHS STRUCTURE



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

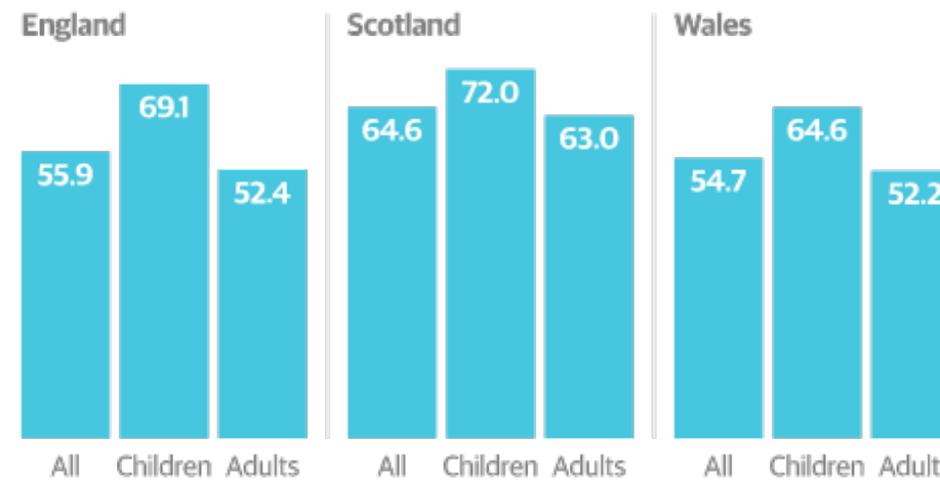
## Compliance with the Dentist

Please analyse the data given here on the number of patients going to the dentist.

1. What does this graph tell us?
2. Think of 2 reasons why children have a higher compliance than adults.
3. What could be done to help encourage patients to visit their dentist?

## Going to the dentist

Percentage of population seen in the 24 months to 31 March 2014



Guardian graphic

Source: NHS



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION NHS STRUCTURE 6

Please analyse the data given here on the number of patients going to the dentist.

### 1. What does this graph tell us?

2. Think of 2 reasons why children have a higher compliance than adults.
3. What could be done to help encourage patients to visit their dentist?

#### GOOD ANSWER

- Use actual figures from the image.
- Being succinct to ensure you cover all three points within the 5 minutes.
- Picking out information that you think is relevant and explaining why you think it is relevant.
- Referencing the image when you are asked questions.

#### BAD ANSWER

- Giving just one side of the argument when asked about your opinion on compliance
- Reading off what you see, instead of explaining it in detail and not referencing the image when asked questions
- Being distracted by the large amount of information.
- If you haven't read up on dentistry appointment compliance, don't show them!

Interview  
Top Tip



Use the data! Even when the question is 'what could be done to help encourage patients', bringing in the data shows the examiner that you can back up your opinions with data.



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION

## NHS STRUCTURE

# 6

Please analyse the data given here on the number of patients going to the dentist.

1. What does this graph tell us?
- 2. Think of 2 reasons why children have a higher compliance than adults.**
3. What could be done to help encourage patients to visit their dentist?

### WHY CHILDREN ARE MORE COMPLIANT

**Cost:** Dental treatment is free for children whereas adults have to pay for appointments and the more extensive treatment required, the more they have to pay. This is perhaps the main reason why more children attend appointments than adults.

**Motivation:** Parents care a lot about their children's health, often even more than their own! They want to ensure that they are receiving the adequate treatment and that their children are healthy.

**Availability:** Children have much greater availability with long holidays and also school being their main commitment, from which they can be excused for a dentist appointment.



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION

## NHS STRUCTURE

# 6



Please analyse the data given here on the number of patients going to the dentist.

1. What does this graph tell us?
2. Think of 2 reasons why children have a higher compliance than adults.
- 3. What could be done to help encourage patients to visit their dentist?**

### WHAT COULD BE DONE TO INCREASE COMPLIANCE

**Lower cost:** This seems an obvious method of increasing accessibility. Patients on low income can already get their dental treatment subsidised, but perhaps increasing awareness that this is possible e.g. for university students via HC1 and HC2 forms.

**Weekend Appointments:** This will ensure that those with regular commitments are able to visit the dentist on the weekend.

**Letters and text reminders:** Many patients may forget that they have an appointment so reminding them that they do will also help.





# MMI STATION: DENTAL ETHICS



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

DENTAL ETHICS



DIFFICULTY: HARD

## Working within your capabilities

You are a newly qualified dentist on your first job. A patient with fear of the dentist comes into your practice. They are quite agitated, and are refusing a check-up unless they receive some sedation. Your senior has gone for lunch, but is available on-call

**What is the best way of approaching this situation?**



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION 7

### DENTAL ETHICS

You are a newly qualified dentist on your first job. A patient with fear of the dentist comes into your practice. They are quite agitated, and are refusing a check-up unless they receive some sedation. Your senior has gone for lunch, but is available on-call

**What is the best way of approaching this situation?**

#### GOOD ANSWER

- **Prioritising the patient.** Always put the patients' needs above your own - and the best thing you can do is try and calm the patient down and reassure them. This is more important than the actual treatment.
- **Ask for help.** You should recognise this is a difficult situation and someone senior who is experienced will be better placed to help.
- **Take a history.** When the senior arrives, it would be helpful to establish some rapport with the patient.

#### BAD ANSWER

- **Giving sedation.** While you are qualified to do so, this is a pressured situation and if something goes wrong you may get in trouble
- **Panicking.** Universities want to see that you can act under pressure and deal with a difficult situation. Their agitation can easily pass onto you - Psychology shows we speak at the pace of whom we're conversing with so try not to match their pace / volume and remain calm and coherent.





# MMI STATION: DENTAL ETHICS



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

DENTAL ETHICS



DIFFICULTY: HARD

## Acting Promptly when Patients are at Risk

You are a dental student and are shadowing one of the dentists. You remember that the dentist you were shadowing was flirting with the patient in an appointment but thought nothing of it. You then bump into the dentist and this patient in Tesco's and suspect that they are having a romantic relationship. **How should you approach this scenario?**



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION 8

### DENTAL ETHICS

You are a dental student and are shadowing one of the dentists. You remember that the dentist you were shadowing was flirting with the patient in an appointment but thought nothing of it. You then bump into the dentist and this patient in Tesco's and suspect that they are having a romantic relationship. **How should you approach this scenario?**

#### GOOD ANSWER

- **It is understandable that a dentist may develop feelings of happiness.** However what is most important is that these feelings do not cloud their dental judgement.
- **Happiness vs Romance.** In the case of being romantically involved with a patient, this would mean that they will treat their patients differently.
- **There are consequences of this.** They may overlook aspects of a patient's dental health and may mean that they receive greater attention than other patients.

#### BAD ANSWER

- **Jumping to conclusions.** We don't know for a fact that they are having a romantic relationship so before escalating to authority, it would be important to find out more details
- **Ignoring the matter.** You have a responsibility to protect the patient whose care is being undermined by this potential romantic relationship.
- **Not giving a solution.** Dating may occur only after the patient has been reassigned to another dentist and a suitable time period has elapsed.



# EXAMINER'S CARD

## MMI STATION 8

DENTAL ETHICS

You are a dental student and are shadowing one of the dentists. You remember that the dentist you were shadowing was flirting with the patient in an appointment but thought nothing of it. You then bump into the dentist and this patient in Tesco's and suspect that they are having a romantic relationship. **How should you approach this scenario?**

### GOOD ANSWER

- **It is understandable that a dentist may develop feelings of happiness.** However what is most important is that these feelings do not cloud their dental judgement.
- **Happiness vs Romance.** In the case of being romantically involved with a patient, this would mean that they will treat their patients differently.
- **There are consequences of this.** They may overlook aspects of a patient's dental health and may mean that they receive greater attention than other patients.

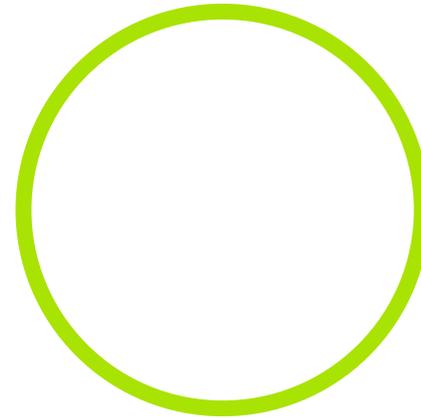
*"I would approach this scenario by informing the dentist of this when I see them, and also inform them of this.*

*I would also check to see if they have been reassigned to another dentist.*

*If I see any concerns, I would use my judgement to contact the appropriate professionals"*



Mock 1



Mock 1  
**Complete**

